

## **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

The Non-Final Office Action dated May 25, 2010, ("Office Action") has been carefully considered and reviewed. Claims 1-73 are currently pending. In this response, claims 1-26, 28-30, 33-43, 45, 46, 48-59, 61-66, and 68-71 have been amended, claims 74-85 have been added, and claim 42 has been cancelled without prejudice. No new matter has been added. Entry of the amendments to claims 1-26, 28-30, 33-43, 45, 46, 48-59, 61-66, and 68-71, the addition of claims 74-85, and the cancellation of claim 42 without prejudice is respectfully requested. Reconsideration of the current rejections in the present application is also respectfully requested based on the following remarks,

### **I. Oath/Declaration**

On page 2 of the Office Action, the Oath/Declaration is objected to as allegedly being improperly signed by the inventors. However, Applicant notes with appreciation that the Examiner has agreed to withdraw the objection to the Oath/Declaration.

### **II. Objection to the Drawings**

On page 2 of the Office Action, Figures 1-5 are objected to because of informalities. Applicant is preparing the corrected drawings and will submit them in due course.

### **III. The Allowable/Allowability of Claims 1-5, 7-15, 18-23, 25-29, 32, 36, 41-45, 48-55, 58-63, and 65-73**

Applicant notes with appreciation the indication on page 4 of the Office Action that claims 1-5, 7-15, 18-23, 25-29, 41-45, 48-55, 58-63, and 65-73 have been allowed. Applicant

notes with equal appreciation the indication on page 4 of the Office Action that claims 32 and 36 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 30 have been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter recited in claim 32, and thus should now be allowable. Acknowledgement of the same is respectfully requested.

**IV. The Obviousness Rejection of Claims 30, 31, and 33**

Claims 30, 31, and 33 are currently rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,774,664 to Godbersen (“Godbersen”).

Regarding claims 30, 31, and 33, the Office Action alleges that Godbersen discloses the claimed invention. The current rejection of claims 30, 31, and 33 has been rendered moot by the current amendments to claim 30. In particular, claim 30 has been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter indicated by the Office and thus render the aforementioned obviousness rejection moot. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the allowance of claims 30, 31, and 33.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests that the aforementioned obviousness rejection of claims 30, 31, and 33 be withdrawn.

**V. Newly Added Claims 74-85**

Regarding newly added claims 74-85, Applicant respectfully submits that support for newly added claims 74-85 may be found at least in the Specification on page 8, lines 8-13, for example. Applicants respectfully submit that the newly added claims 74-85 are allowable over cited references for at least the reasons as discussed above. Moreover, these claims recite

additional features which are not disclosed, or even suggested, by the cited reference. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the newly added claims 74-85 are allowable over the cited references.

**CONCLUSION**

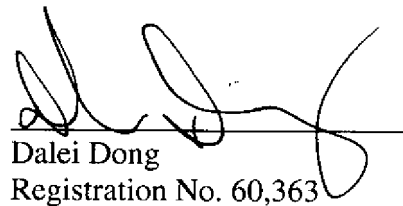
In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance, and an early indication of the same is courteously solicited. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone at the below listed telephone number, in order to expedite resolution of any issues and to expedite passage of the present application to issue, if any comments, questions, or suggestions arise in connection with the present application.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-0206, and please credit any excess fees to the same deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: September 27, 2010

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